3: Anonymous U-4 (no date) 1920 RH1 Caucasia RH1

own homes, and a rise of from 10 per cent. to 50 per cent. in the rates of pay. A promise of improved housing had been obtained when war broke out, and the men returned to work.

In the matter of wages, the demand at Baku was for a minimum of £3 10*s.* a month; in 1908 an ordinary labourer on the oil-fields had earned only from 32*s.* to 40*s.* a month. In other industries ordinary labourers received from 2*s.* 6*d.* to 5*s.* a day, artisans from 5*s.* to 7*s.* 6*d.*, and miners from 5*s.* to 8*s.* 4*d.* Italian masons were paid from 3*s.* 4*d.* to 6*s.* 8*d.* a day. Agricultural labourers in 1913 were receiving from about 1*s.* 7*d.* to about 2*s.* 2*d.* a day, wages being highest in Kutais and lowest in Terek. Female labour, which is much used both in agriculture and in industry, is very poorly paid.

Since 1912 accident and sickness insurance has been compulsory for large industrial concerns. Medical attendance, maintenance during illness, and pensions for totally disabled workmen and for the dependants of workmen accidentally killed in their employers' service, have to be provided by the employers.

(2) Agriculture

(*a*) *Products of Commercial Value.*

Vegetable Products.—Cereals grow well in the soil of Ciscaucasia, which is a continuation of the 'black earth' of southern Russia. The area planted with *wheat* in 1914 throughout the country was 12,700,000 acres, yielding nearly 3,000,000 tons of grain; nearly 5,000,000 acres were in Kuban and over 4,000,000 in Stavropol. The area under *barley* in the two divisions of Caucasia in 1914 was about 5,500,000 acres (yielding 1,600,000 tons), and of these more than 4,000,000 were in Ciscaucasia—2,000,000 in Kuban, 1,600,000 in Stavropol, and the rest in Terek. Between 1911 and 1915 Ciscaucasia produced on an average one-third of the total output of winter wheat in the whole Russian Empire and about 15 per cent. of the entire yield of

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243 wheat and barley. Considerable quantities of both
311 wheat and barley are also grown in the eastern and central parts of Transcaucasia, the area under wheat in 1914 being 475,000 acres in Baku, 692,000 in Elisavetopol, and 680,000 in Tiflis, and that under barley, which thrives up to an elevation of 8,000 ft., being 248,000 acres, 329,000 acres, and 318,000 acres respectively in the same three governments.

Maize is the cereal most widely cultivated in north-western Transcaucasia, where it forms the principal food of the population, and whence it is also exported to Europe and Turkey. In Kutais the crop covered 466,000 acres in 1914; and in the little coastal district of Sukhum more than 100,000 acres. The acreage under maize in the whole country was 1,440,000, of which 670,000 acres were in Transcaucasia. Of the 770,000 acres sown in Ciscaucasia, 561,000 were in Terek. The total production of maize in 1914 amounted to 481,000 tons. *Millet* is almost entirely confined to Ciscaucasia, which in 1914, out of a total of 951,000 acres, yielding 355,000 tons, could claim 895,000 acres, more than half of them in Terek and most of the remainder in Stavropol. *Oats* are even more exclusively a product of the northern provinces, for in 1914, of a total of 1,056,000 acres, 512,000 were in Kuban, 301,000 in Stavropol, and 204,000 in Terek. The total yield was 441,000 tons. *Rye* is the least popular of the cereals, there being only 407,000 acres under this crop in the north, of which 246,000 were in Kuban, and 133,000 in the south, of which 75,000 were in Elisavetopol. The total yield was 137,000 tons. The growing of *rice* is decreasing; the yield in 1914 was 28,000 tons, and the area under cultivation 78,000 acres.

248 *Cotton*, first grown in the Government of Kutais in 1860, had come before the war to be cultivated over considerable areas in Elisavetopol and Erivan, and to a smaller extent in Baku, Tiflis, and Kutais, while a beginning had been made in Sukhum and Kars. Indeed the cotton crop, which was superseding rice, was looked on as a promising source of future prosperity, and

that there is no possibility of real tea plantations. Corn (or maize) has been cultivated in large areas south and north of the Great Caucasus for more than 100 years. A more recent experiment has been made with rice, which has been successfully grown in Colchis and the Talysh coastal strip.

As for the cultivated grains, it is barley which climbs highest in the mountainous areas. Thus barley is the only cereal which can be grown in the higher areas of permanent habitation, for instance, in Svanet'ia or Oset'ia. It has been seen in Oset'ian villages and on the slopes of Alagöz, Ararat, and other parts of Armenia, at elevations up to 2500 m. Rye is grown up to 2000 m., i.e., 1000 m. higher than in the Alps. Even corn ripens at an elevation of 900 m. The vine is found in Oset'ian villages (near Kurta) up to 1090 m. The best wines are made from growths found at an elevation of 750 m., and around that line, in the Alazani valley in Kakhet'ia. These vines yield the excellent wines of T'elavi, Napareuli, Tsinandali, and other famous places.

As late as the 19th century, after the Russian conquest, senseless deforestation was practiced, often with the help of fire; so that entire areas were laid bare of woods. But in too many instances neither fruit trees, vines, nor cereals were planted afterwards. Only during this century has the century-old practice of deforestation in the Caucasian countries of ancient culture been brought to a halt.

311 Krasnodar Kray: The geographical structure of the kray secures to it a great agricultural variety; the sea coast is subtropical, the mountains along this seacoast are covered by forests, whereas the steppe beyond the forests with its black soil is one of the most fertile regions of the USSR; the only sub-unit of the kray, the Adyge AO belongs to the steppe zone.

Rostov Oblast: This oblast formerly included two quite distinct regions; a very dry south-eastern part with agricultural features similar to the eastern Stavropol' Kray, and a more humid northern part which is a kind of continuation of Ukraine; this oblast has recently been broken up, with the northern part forming a new unit, and only the more homogeneous south-eastern part around Sal'sk and the lower-Don valley remaining in the Rostov Oblast; in the remaining part grain farming and sunflowers are especially characteristic.

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311 A clear picture of the agricultural poten-
243 tial of the area, is best given in the form of a list:

Wheat: The main areas are the North Caucasus, in Azerbaijan the northern side of the Kura valley, and in the south the region along the state boundaries. In Trans-caucasia, grain is in general subordinated to industrial and subtropical crops. Wheat is obtained

311
243 mostly by dry farming methods, though in Azerbaijan and Dagestan it is cultivated in irrigated lowlands as well. It is winter wheat which is commonly cultivated. Spring wheat occurs in the Steppe region of the Krasnodar Kray, where there is a very low snow precipitation, and in the irrigated parts of Dagestan. As to the quality, the best wheat is produced along the Kuban River, especially in the Cherkess AO.

Rice: This crop was grown originally only in the South Caucasus. Nowadays it is cultivated in the North Caucasus as well. In the North Caucasus especially the area along the lower Kuban, between Krasnodar and the delta, then the flooded area along the Terek River, and especially the region around Kizlyar are the main rice areas.

Rye: Cultivation area mainly in the Astrakhan' Oblast on both sides of the Volga and Akhtuba Rivers.

Oats: Cultivated mainly in the Stavropol' Kray, in Groznyy Oblast, in the steppe areas of the Krasnodar Kray, and in the northern corner of Dagestan.

Corn: Cultivation area mainly in the North Caucasus. In the South Caucasus (Abkhaz ASSR, Imeretia) it is gradually giving place to subtropical crops. In the North Caucasus, a belt embracing the north and northeastern parts of the Krasnodar Kray, the Cherkes AO, the North Ossetian ASSR, Groznyy Oblast, and the

311
243 Dagestan ASSR is the most important corn producing area. In the belt itself the Cherkess AO, and the North Ossetian ASSR, the corn republic, are the chief producers. In Dagestan, corn is very often cultivated in irrigated areas.

Barley: Almost universal in the Caucasus. In the South Caucasus especially the higher parts of Armenia produce barley. In the North Caucasus the south eastern parts of the Rostov Oblast, and the region in the northern parts of the Krasnodar Kray are important. In Dagestan it is cultivated with dry farming methods.

Millet: Cultivated only in the North Caucasus.

311
244 Potatoes: Important areas both in South and North Caucasus. In the South Caucasus the region around Yerevan is the most important. In addition to this important region are the areas around Tbilisi, and Baku. In the North Caucasus the Kabardian ASSR, the North Ossetian ASSR, the southern parts of the Groznyy Oblast, the north-western part of Dagestan, and the northern areas of the Rostov Oblast are important.

311
245 Horticulture and fruit-gardening: Truck-gardening is characteristic for suburban areas, or those which are in the vicinity of big health resorts. One should mention as main truck-gardening centers the Baku, Yerevan, Rostov and Pyatigorsk areas. Fruit-gardening is widespread in the whole Caucasus. In the

a.1 Wheat, Rice

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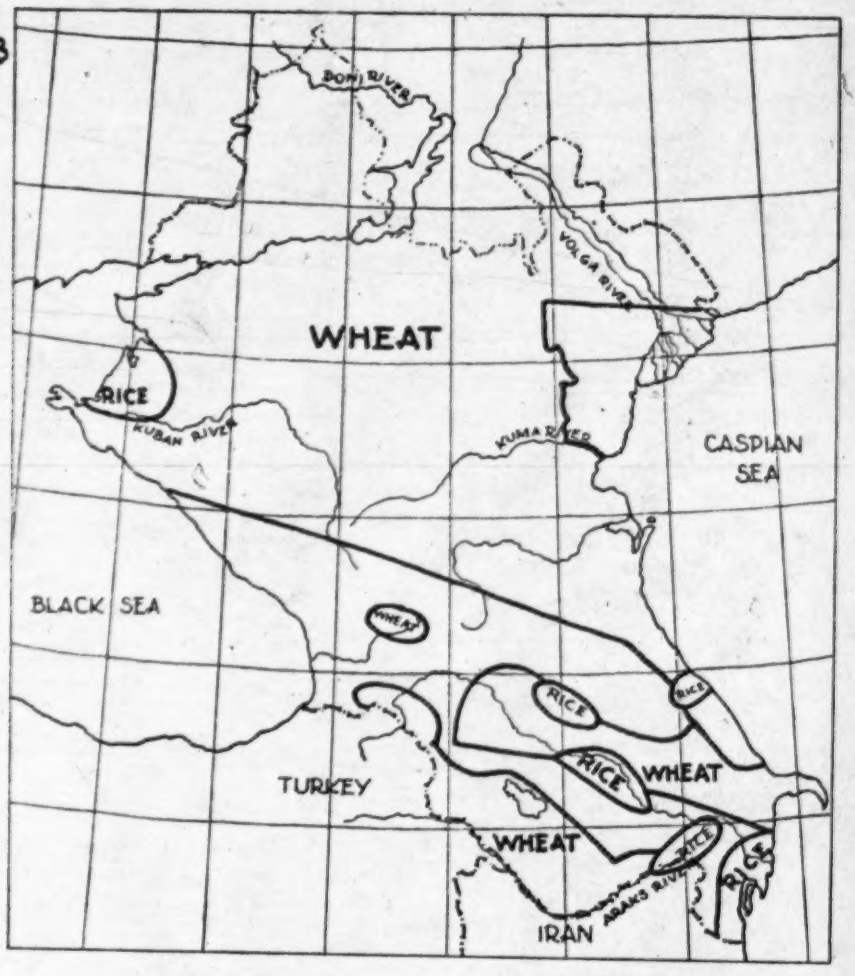

a. 2 Rye, Oats

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a. 3 Corn

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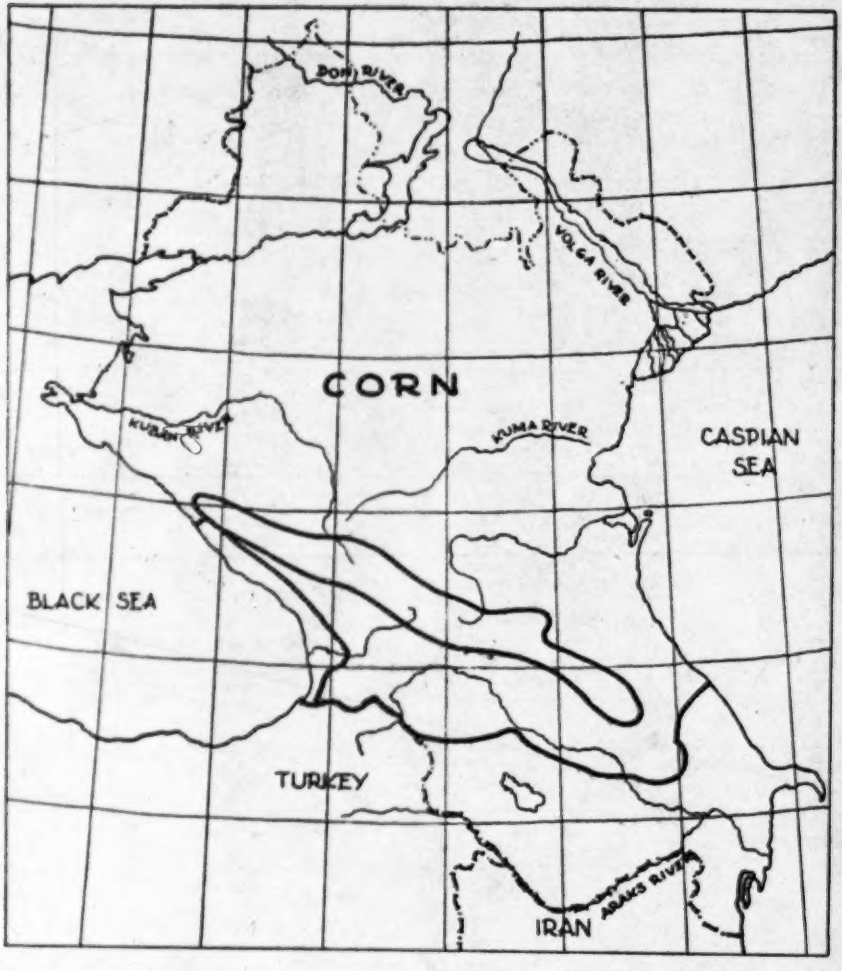

a.4 Barley

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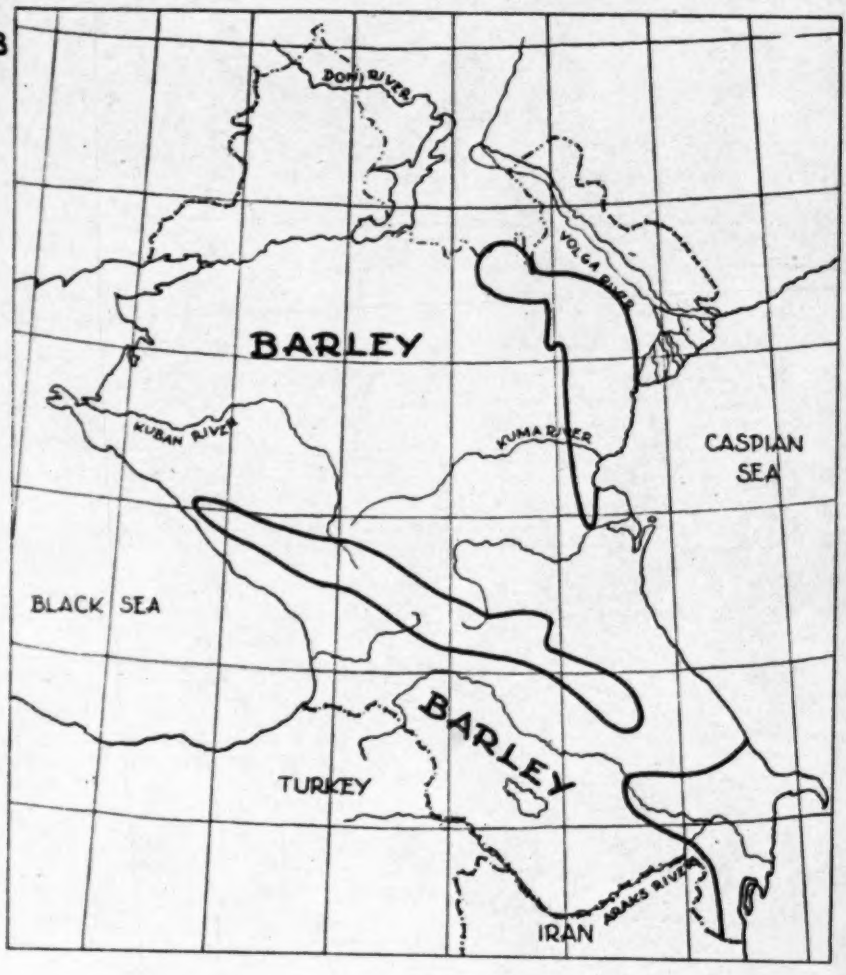

a. 5 Millet

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